



Barracks Lane Community Garden

Can you believe it is May already?

Since our last update so much has happened in the garden. We opened for our first Garden Guardian Community Open session on Sunday 18th April. It was great to be at the garden and welcome visitors back. We will be open every other Sunday 10am - 2pm till October. You can check out the dates we are open on our [calendar](#). Prior to us opening the Trustees spent a day in the garden (in the snow at times!) having a spring garden tidy!

Dan has done an amazing job on the new sandpit. Just a few more finishing touches to make and it will be ready for use.

Due to the gradual relaxing of government restrictions we have seen an increase in the number of bookings in the garden, particularly for outdoor work meetings and training and educational groups. We hope that as the government restrictions ease further we will be able to take even more bookings. If you are

interested in hiring the garden please visit our [website](#) or contact [Hannah](#).

The trustees interviewed some amazing candidates for the Community Engagement Gardener role. It looks like we are going to have two new additions to the Barracks Lane Team. We will introduce them formally to you in the next newsletter.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Barracks Lane Community Garden Trustees

Seeds and Plants Swap

We are very happy to invite you to our first event of 2021 - we hope it is the first of many more to come!

On Sunday 23rd May the garden will be open from 10am-2pm for a Seeds and Plants Swap. You can bring your spare plants and seeds to donate, and/or take away new plants and seeds. Our friends from [Replenish](#) will be joining us so you can find out how you can compost at home to feed your soil and keep your plants healthy. We are looking forward to meeting old friends and new and showing you our new raised beds and sandpit.

Barracks Lane **Seeds & Plants Swap**
Community Garden

Sunday 23rd May '21 10am - 2pm

Bring your spare plants and seeds to donate.
Take away some new plants and seeds.

Meet old friends and new, including our new Community Engagement Gardeners.
Come see our new raised beds and sunpit!

A one-way system and social distancing will be in place to ensure everyone's safety.
Drinks and biscuits will be on sale.

A Composting Ambassador from Replenish will be on hand so you can find out how you can compost at home to feed your soil and keep your plants healthy.

www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk



A big thank you to Andrew Patching

Andrew very kindly donated all his spare seeds and Jerusalem artichoke tubers to the garden. We will have some of these seeds on offer at the event. All donations are greatly appreciated and make a massive difference to the garden.

Seeds and Plants Swap

Light refreshments will be on sale.

A one way system and social distancing will be in place to ensure everyone's safety.

Could YOU be one of our new Trustees?

Barracks Lane Community Garden



Barracks Lane Community Garden are looking for a few new trustees

What is a trustee and what would I need to do?

- We are a friendly group who are all passionate about local green spaces and engaging people with them.
- Barracks Lane Community Garden Project is a registered charity and a limited company.
- As a trustee you will also be a director of the company.
- There are between 6 and 12 trustee meetings each year; we hope trustees will be able to attend all of these, but in reality this is not always the case. Some people do not attend many trustee meetings but do other tasks or work on a particular project.
- As a trustee you will have a legal responsibility to ensure that the charity is well governed and working according to its memorandum of association.
- We want to a strategic plan which we update and report against on a regular basis.
- There is lots of scope for trustees to bring their own new ideas and develop their own projects with the agreement of other trustees. We welcome these initiatives.
- The Garden is well used and visited by a wide variety of families and individuals.
- You will be given a full induction to the garden.
- The hours required vary largely depending on the role people take on. We say three hours each month is standard to cover the basics. This may include attending one of our friendly meetings one month, supporting an event another month, reading emails, doing a bit of outreach work, etc.

If this sounds like something you'd be interested to get to know - we can send you a set of meeting minutes and the last financial report to have a look at. On our website in the trustees section you will also find copies for our newsletters and the last Annual Report.

You may also like to talk with an existing trustee to explore things in more detail.



For more information please contact Hannah: barrackslanegarden@yahoo.co.uk

www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk

SUPPORTED BY



COMMUNITY GRANT

**Raised bed workshop - Sunday
6th June 10am - 4pm**

Come and join us and learn how to build a raised bed!

The garden is looking for a couple of new Trustees

Could this be you? Do you know anyone who might be interested?

When asked why she loves being a Trustee at the garden, our Chair Jenny said "Being a trustee at Barracks Lane Community Garden allows me to play an important role in providing the local community with access to a safe, green and nature abundant space. As a team we work collaboratively, drawing on each others areas of expertise and interest to develop the garden, and we have lots of fun!".

Spend a day with us at the garden and be part of the team that builds two new raised beds and starts of our new fruit and vegetable planting plan.

Light refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own lunch.

We will go ahead even if it's raining so please dress appropriately, and wear sturdy boots/shoes.

To keep everyone safe we ask that you register for this workshop by contacting [Hannah](#).



Thank you for the Compost and micro grant

Our friends at [Oxford City Farm](#) and [Good Food Oxford](#) provided us with some much needed compost. Our Trustee John has been busily planting pumpkin seeds which were also donated by Good Food Oxford and should be available at the Seeds and Plants Swap. Good Food Oxford and Oxford Direct Services awarded us a micro grant which is being used to support the event.

If you need some help with growing pumpkins, Oxford City Farm and

Good Food Oxford have made a brilliant video. You can watch it [here](#).



Thank you for the sawdust for our compost loo!

Sustainability is key to what we do at the garden. We try to recycle, upcycle and be as environmentally friendly as possible. That's why we have a compost loo. Our friends at [RAW Workshop](#) donated us a couple of bags of sawdust. One bag will be used in the old vault to allow the chamber to do its magic and the other bag will be used by the loo users.

If you'd like to find out more about compost toilets, visit the [resources page](#) on our website where you will

find a great article and lots of other
useful information.